

# Las Vegas Gazette.

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LAS VEGAS, NEW MEXICO, OCTOBER 17, 1874.

WHOLE NUMBER 83

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cialty. 61-6m

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Dealer in General Merchandise,

Puerto de Luna,

Country Produce and cattle received

in payment. 74

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Spring 1874.

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This being a first class establishment, of  
many years standing, with ample accommo-  
dations for Man and Beast, offers better facili-  
ties to the traveling community than any  
other House of its size and class within the  
Territory of New Mexico, A

Bar and Billiard Saloon

Supplied with first class tables and excellent  
and pure Liquors and Cigars attached; Regu-  
lar Boarders, with or without lodgings, will  
be accommodated for the week or month at the  
lowest possible rates. Patrons respectfully  
solicited.

## Las Vegas Gazette.

LOUIS HOMMEL,

Editor & Publisher.

## NEW MEXICO.

Her Natural Resources and

ATTRACTIONS.

Published by ELIAS BREVOORT,

General Land Agent, Santa Fe, N. M.

Republished by authority of the Author.

METAL AND MINING, HOT

SPRINGS, ETC.

[Continued.]

Near the old town of El Paso tradition  
places the locality of one of the richest sil-  
ver mines of those formerly known to the  
Spaniards. Its site had been lost since the  
expulsion of the Jesuits until last year. It  
is said that the Jesuits of Northern Mexico  
were the last to suffer the decree of expul-  
sion, and had sufficient notice of the edict,  
and carefully covered up the traces of the  
mining there. In this way the localities of  
many of the richest mines of New Mexico  
have been lost. As the section in which  
this remarkable old mine is situated is a  
portion of the mineral-bearing mountain  
system of New Mexico, we will here give  
a condensed account of the mine and its his-  
tory. The locality and history of the mine,  
called the *Mina del Padre*, having been  
gathered from the old church records at El  
Paso several gentlemen determined to  
reopen it, which they did in the winter  
of 1872-3. The year 1680 was the year the  
mine was discovered by the monks of the  
order of Saint Francis, in charge of the  
church at El Paso; the same year the Span-  
iards under Governor and Captain General  
Otomun were all expelled from New Mex-  
ico by the Pueblo Indians. Skilled in the  
science of mineralogy, they were not slow  
to discover the extraordinary richness of the  
Padre vein, and their knowledge of the art  
of metallurgy enabled them to work it very  
profitably for many years. From the silver  
obtained from this mine, most of the church-  
es in northern Chihuahua were enriched  
and endowed. The Jesuits were never  
friendly to the Franciscans, and when in the  
early part of the eighteenth century, the  
order of the Jesuits obtained complete con-  
trol in Spain, it was not long ere the bare-  
footed Franciscans were ordered to depart  
from Mexico, and surrender their rich pos-  
sessions to the dominant Jesuits. When  
information of the coming change reached  
the monks at El Paso, they quietly covered  
the mine, and obliterated as near as pos-  
sible all traces of its existence. Years  
passed on, the Jesuits, if they had learned  
the secret of the silver treasure, never avail-  
ed themselves of it. In 1792 the mine was  
again opened, and worked for several years  
by a company of Mexican gentlemen. The  
works for the reduction of ores were situ-  
ated near the river banks of the Rio del Nor-  
te or Rio Grande. The revolution of 1810,  
followed by the declaration and establish-  
ment of Mexican independence, again in-  
terrupted the working of the mine, and it  
was a second time filled up and abandoned,  
and so remained until the late rediscovery  
and reopening. This was done at consid-  
erable trouble and expense. A shaft was  
sunk ninety feet through the material which  
had been used to fill up the mine, and which  
from lapse of time had become almost as  
firmly cemented together as the original  
soil. Although the main lode is not yet  
reached, the ores that have been taken out  
during the progress of excavation prove to  
be unusually rich. Soon after it was open-  
ed a gentleman arrived upon the ground  
who had come from California expressly to  
search for this very mine, having obtained  
there some clue to its value and its locality.  
He was not aware that similar data had  
been obtained at El Paso, and he was just  
in time to be too late. The mine is situ-  
ated at the southern point of the Organ  
mountains, here about 1,500 feet high, two  
and a half miles from the City of El Paso,  
and is a lode or vein of black chloride of  
silver, containing sulphurets, the out crop-  
ping about forty feet wide. This immense  
lode, or vein, runs north and south, dip-  
ping to the west at an angle of 45°. The  
silver lode lays in a bed of old red sand-  
stone, and the overlying face rock is igne-  
ous, with traces of iron in it. There can be  
no doubt that this lode is extremely rich,  
and immensely valuable.

West from the Mesilla Valley, the princi-  
pal towns in which are Mesilla, Las Cruces  
and Doña Ana, is the new and very flour-  
ishing mining town of Silver City. The  
mines were discovered in the locality in the

spring of 1870, and since then Silver City  
has been founded, and now has a popula-  
tion of nearly fifteen hundred, the town  
containing, besides miners and mining es-  
tablishments, lawyers, physicians, preach-  
ers, editors and so forth, and churches, a  
schoolhouse, printing offices and mercan-  
tile houses; some of the most handsome  
brick dwellings too, being found there.  
Most of the mines opened and worked in  
that section well sustain their reputation.  
Governor Army, two years ago, obtained  
specimens of upwards of sixty different  
mines and lodes in that section. On the  
Mimbres river, in the same section of coun-  
try, or near that stream, is an extensive  
gold placer, which was formerly worked by  
the Mexicans in a very rude fashion, and  
yielded well, though they had to carry the  
dirt to the water; whether this is worked or  
not now, we are unaware. A canal to convey  
water a few miles in length at this point,  
would develop an extraordinary rich gold  
deposit.

On the headwaters of the Rio Gila, in  
New Mexico, and on its tributary, the Rio  
San Francisco, in Arizona, discoveries of  
gold, silver, copper and quicksilver have  
been made, the gold prospecting in the bed  
of the stream from one cent to one hundred  
cents to the washing pan. It was in this  
region where the Indians procured gold to  
make the bullets which the explorer Aubrey,  
twenty years ago, found in use among the  
wild Apaches there. Placers of gold are  
found throughout the mountains along those  
streams; but for the present the lack of  
water necessarily renders them unavailing,  
comparatively.

Accessible to the Rio Grande, south of  
Albuquerque, lying in the mountain ranges  
which bound the valley on either side, for  
nearly its entire length, are extensive de-  
posits of mineral wealth, waiting for the  
capital, skill and labor to develop them.  
This development, but just started, will  
begin in earnest as soon as the railroad  
reaches Albuquerque, but will be greatly  
accelerated by the construction of the pro-  
posed branch down this valley to El Paso  
and on to Chihuahua. These may be briefly  
itemized as follows:

1. In the range east of the Rio Grande,  
known in different parts of its course as the  
Manzano, Jicarilla and Organ mountains,  
but called generally in connection with the  
Sandia mountain, the "Organ Range," are  
found veins of silver and copper (many of  
which were formerly worked by the Spani-  
ards) almost wherever it has been explored.  
This range lies from eighteen to twenty-five  
miles from the river.

2. On the same side of the Rio Grande,  
north of Fort Fraig, occur the excellent  
coal mines of San Pedro, and veins of cop-  
per, galena and iron ore.

3. On the west side of the river is a range  
formed of spurs from the Sierra Madre,  
which are called at different points the Mim-  
bres; Magdalena, Ladrone, San Mateo,  
and (north of Albuquerque) the Jemez and  
Abiquiu mountains. In this range, whose  
north and south extent is over 250 miles,  
rich lodes of copper are numerous. It is  
found at certain localities almost in a pure  
state, and at others combined with gold and  
silver. There are two copper mines at Je-  
mez—one large of virgin ore, and heretofore  
extensively worked. There is a large mine  
in the Magdalena mountains, west of Socorro,  
of copper, with a large percentage of  
silver, new developments of which within  
the last several months are exceedingly  
promising. Recently also, within the Magda-  
lena mountain section, mines of other  
metals have been discovered, and some of  
them opened and worked, and the reports  
from them show that they are valuable, and  
that Spring Hill mining district, embracing  
them, will, in due time, become one of the  
most productive in the Territory.

Upon, or accessible to the surveyed route  
of the 35th parallel railway, west of the Rio  
Grande, there are,

1. The deposits of coal in the valleys of  
the Puerco, the Rita, the Jemez, and north  
of the San Mateo mountain.

2. A fine marble quarry, on the Rio Sa-  
lado, a branch of the Jemez, about 25  
miles west of the Rio Grande. Mr. Hol-  
brook, civil engineer, reports the quality  
equal to that of the celebrated Rutland  
quarries and that the deposit is very large  
and accessible. "Large quantities of gypsum  
were seen near this point, and also on the  
Jemez, south of the junction of the Salado,  
where our party saw more marble."

3. Near Jemez, about 30 miles west of  
the Rio Grande, was recently found serpen-  
tine of great beauty, easily quarried, in any  
sized blocks.

4. Very extensive beds of gypsum im-

"In his report of meeting the Indians with  
golden bullets, Mr. Aubrey says, 'They  
are of different sizes, and each Indian has a  
pouch of them. We saw an Indian load his  
gun with one large and three small gold  
bullets to shoot a rabbit; They proposed  
exchanging them for lead, but I preferred  
trading other articles.'

mediately adjoin the railroad survey line  
near Rita, 40 miles west of Albuquerque.  
They are reported by the geologist to be of a  
very pure quality, lying in regular strata,  
presenting a continuous bluff 80 to 100 feet  
thick. They are amorphous and fibrous.  
The value of this material in its crude form  
as a fertilizer is well known, and may even-  
tually give rise to an extensive demand for  
distant transportation. In other respects  
it will prove valuable in a prepared form  
and can be extensively used in different  
processes of building, and in various other  
forms.

Salpeter is common, but is rarely found  
pure. At one place near the international  
boundary line, it is found pure, near a  
spring where extensive deposits are made  
in the clay, whence it is gathered in consid-  
erable quantities, mainly by the Mexicans  
from the city of Chihuahua, the locality  
being just within the Mexican territory.  
The state government of Chihuahua regu-  
lates by law its collection, and, in like  
manner attempts the prohibition of its ex-  
portation.

In New Mexico plumbago has been found  
in many localities. Zinc is found in the  
Sierra Madre, in the Sandia mountain and  
in the San Juan country. We do not re-  
member to have heard of it elsewhere.  
Quicksilver, virgin and cinnabar, is found  
in the Rio Grande country, below the Taos  
mountain pass. Old Spanish records men-  
tion the Mogollon mountain as "the place  
where cinnabar is found."

The deposits of iron ore are numerous,  
extending from the Raton mountains to the  
Placer and Sandia mountains, overlooking  
the Rio Grande. It is found of excellent  
quality near Las Vegas, where we traced  
two veins one of magnetic oxide, four feet  
thick and very rich, and the other of specu-  
lar iron ore, also rich, six feet in thick-  
ness. At the Placer mines, south of Santa  
Fe, there are three veins, 6 to 10 feet  
thick, of rich magnetic iron ore; also, on  
the Maxwell grant, in the Apache Hills,  
north of Fort Union, and near Jemez.

Many of these deposits being quite near to  
coal and limestone, their value is greatly  
enhanced for manufacturing purposes. Such  
is the case in the Raton mountain, at the  
Placer mountains, and with those at Max-  
well's. At the Placer mountains, south of  
Santa Fe, there is sufficient timber within  
a radius of 10 miles from the Tuerto ore, to  
smelt a half million of tons—even if the  
coal should not answer.

## ITEMS FOR LADIES.

Flourences are disappearing.

Chignons are no longer fashionable.

All garments are very high in the neck.

Although a woman's age is undeniably  
her own, she does not own it.

"Chemiloon" is what the dress reform-  
ers call the garment of the future.

Sleeves are tight-fitting, without much  
cuff, and that always shaped closely to the  
arm.

A female Masonic lodge exists in Harris-  
burgh, Pa., under the title of "Lilies of  
the Valley."

The new color "cardinal" is a deep rich  
red, and inclines more to scarlet than to  
crimson.

Valenciennes lace scarfs a yard and three  
fourths long are now worn tied around the  
throat.

The choice selection for general wear will  
be gloves of cloth colors, imported to match  
costumes.

Fashionable society is one polished horde,  
formed of two mighty tribes—the bobs and  
the bords.

The most stylish bows for the throat are  
of fine white linen edged with lace, and tied  
in fanciful knots, shell loops and ends.

A youth was recently married to a girl  
who had refused him eighteen times. He  
wishes now he hadn't asked her, but seven-  
teen.

Long veils of grenadine are worn with  
round hats. They partly trim the hat, cov-  
er the face and are rolled round the neck as  
a muffler.

When a young lady has to stay at home  
from a party on account of a sty on her eye  
it is useless to tell her that Providence doeth  
all things for the best.

An Indiana woman says if they have to  
wash and iron in Heaven she hopes they  
will let her remain in Indiana for all times  
to come.

A pointed or round chin indicates a con-  
genial love. A person with such a chin will  
have a beau ideal, and will not be easily  
satisfied with real men or women.

The indented chin indicates a great de-  
sire to be loved, hunger and thirst for affec-  
tion. When large in woman, she may over-  
step the bounds of etiquette, and make  
love to one who pleases her.

A narrow square chin indicates a desire  
to love; and is more common among wo-  
men.